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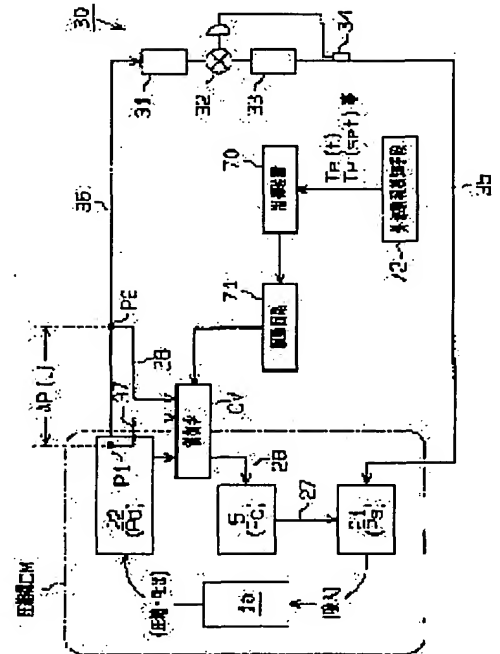
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(54) AIR CONDITIONER

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain an air conditioner having a refrigerant circulation circuit including a variable capacity compressor in which a high cooling efficiency can be sustained while ensuring oil return to a compressor even when the flow rate of refrigerant decreases in correspondence with low cooling load.

SOLUTION: The refrigerant circulation circuit of an air conditioner comprises a condenser 31, an expansion valve 32, an evaporator 33, and a variable capacity compressor CM wherein the expansion valve 32 is a normal charge system expansion valve. A control valve CV regulates the inner pressure P_c of a crank chamber 5 based on the differential pressure $\Delta P(t)$ between two pressure monitoring points P1, P2 set in the refrigerant circulation circuit and conduction control through a controller 70 thus controlling the delivery capacity of the compressor CM and the flow rate of refrigerant in the refrigerant circulation circuit.



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